

of this task (the United Nations Special Commission—UNSCOM), and that task could and should have been accomplished within a matter of months if Iraq had cooperated with the United Nations officials;

Whereas sanctions were imposed upon Iraq to insure its compliance with United Nations directives to eliminate its capability to produce weapons of mass destruction, with the provision that the sanctions would be lifted when UNSCOM certified that Iraq's capability to produce weapons of mass destruction had been eliminated;

Whereas for six and a half years Iraq has pursued a policy of deception, lies, concealment, harassment and intimidation in a deliberate effort to hamper the work of UNSCOM in eliminating Iraq's ability to produce and deliver weapons of mass destruction; and

Whereas recently the government of Iraq has escalated its policy of non-compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions by refusing to permit United States citizens who are recognized specialists from participating as members of UNSCOM teams in carrying out in Iraq actions to implement Security Council resolutions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the United States House of Representatives

(1) that the current crisis regarding Iraq should be resolved peacefully through diplomatic means but in a manner which assures full Iraqi compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions, regarding the destruction of Iraq's capability to produce and deliver weapons of mass destruction;

(2) that in the event that military means are necessary to compel Iraqi compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions, such military action should be undertaken with the broadest feasible multinational support, preferably pursuant to a resolution of the United Nations Security Council;

(3) but that if it is necessary, the United States should take military action unilaterally to compel Iraqi compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Strike all after the resolved clause and insert the following:

That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) the current crisis regarding Iraq should be resolved peacefully through diplomatic means but in a manner which assures full Iraqi compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding the destruction of Iraq's capability to produce and deliver weapons of mass destruction;

(2) in the event that military means are necessary to compel Iraqi compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions, such military action should be undertaken with the broadest feasible multinational support, preferably pursuant to a decision of the United Nations Security Council; and

(3) if it is necessary, however, the United States should take military action unilaterally to compel Iraqi compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Strike all that precedes the resolved clause and insert the following:

Whereas at the conclusion of the Gulf War the United States and the United Nations, acting through the Security Council, determined to find and destroy all of Iraq's capability to produce chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons and its ability to produce missiles capable of delivering such weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas in pursuit of this goal, the United Nations set up a special multinational commission of experts to oversee the completion of this task (the United Nations Special

Commission—UNSCOM), and that task could and should have accomplished within a matter of months if Iraq had cooperated with United Nations officials;

Whereas sanctions were imposed upon Iraq to insure its compliance with United Nations directives to eliminate its capability to produce weapons of mass destruction;

Whereas for 6½ years Iraq has pursued a policy of deception, lies, concealment, harassment, and intimidation in a deliberate effort to hamper the work of UNSCOM in eliminating Iraq's ability to produce and deliver weapons of mass destruction; and

Whereas recently the Government of Iraq has escalated its policy of noncompliance and continues to breach in a material way United Nations Security Council resolutions by refusing to permit United States citizens who are recognized specialists as members of UNSCOM teams in carrying out in Iraq actions to implement Security Council resolutions: Now, therefore, be it

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my support for the resolution that our colleague, Mr. LANTOS, has introduced, and to commend him for his forthrightness on the issue of Saddam Hussein. I am pleased to cosponsor this bill. The current crisis with Iraq is, at its core, yet another effort by Saddam to evade sanctions and to isolate the United States from its allies.

It was decided by the member states of the United Nations, under the auspices of the U.N. Security Council, over 6 years ago, that the civilized world would no longer countenance Saddam's efforts to threaten the region and the world through chemical, biological, and nuclear means. Accordingly, UNSCOM was created to uncover and destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

The sanctions which followed were imposed upon Iraq to ensure its compliance, and were to remain in place until that capability no longer existed. However, the Iraqi regime has evaded UNSCOM's efforts at every turn, and UNSCOM inspectors have been harassed, intimidated, and deceived on a regular basis. It is testament to UNSCOM's persistence that progress in eliminating Iraq's capabilities has been made over the years. But Saddam's capabilities have not been completely eliminated.

It has become clear that Saddam Hussein's repeated refusal to permit American inspectors from participating in UNSCOM inspections cannot be allowed to stand. While all of us support resolving this latest crisis through diplomatic means, Saddam must know that force will be used, if necessary, to ensure that the U.N. Security Council resolutions are complied with.

The bill expresses the sense of the house supporting the use of force as a last resort to assure the destruction of Iraq's capability to produce and deliver weapons of mass destruction—preferably through a multilateral effort. However, the bill advocates unilateral action by the United States if necessary.

Saddam must know that our resolve is greater than his, and that we will not be swayed by our collective determination to eliminate his capability to create and inflict weapons of mass destruction upon his neighbors and the world. Accordingly, I urge our colleagues' support for this bill.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES TO FILE REPORT ON H.R. 217 NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 19, 1997.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask further unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking and Financial Services be permitted to file a report on the bill H.R. 217 no later than December 19, 1997.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the combined requests of the gentleman from South Dakota?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The various motions to reconsider are laid on the table.

OMITTED FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1997

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 11, 1997.

Hon. TOM RIDGE,
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Harrisburg, PA.

DEAR MR. GOVERNOR: This letter is to officially notify you of my resignation as United States Representative to the First District of Pennsylvania. President Clinton has given me the opportunity to continue my lifetime of public service by nominating me to be Ambassador to Italy, the nation of my heritage.

I thank the people of the First District for the opportunity to serve them, this country and this institution. It has been a great honor.

Thank you.
Sincerely,

THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA.

OMITTED FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1997, DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2709

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

(Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the Iran Missile Proliferation Sanctions Act of 1997 is intended to close loopholes in our counterproliferation laws in order to address a matter of critical concern to our national security, the risk that Iran may soon obtain from firms in Russia and elsewhere the capability of producing its own medium and long-range ballistic missiles.

This legislation enjoys extremely strong support on both sides of the aisle. At last count, over 263 Members had asked to be listed as cosponsors, including both the Speaker, Mr. GINGRICH, and the Democratic leader, Mr. GEPHARDT. A companion measure in the Senate has 84 cosponsors, led by the Senate majority leader, Mr. LOTT, and by Mr. LIEBERMAN of Connecticut.

The urgency for this legislation is apparent from press reports. For more